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Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Santiago **Wins** (Uruguay)

I. Introduction

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2001, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 29th, 30th and 36th meetings, on 26 and 28 November and 13 December 2001. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/56/SR.29, 30 and 36).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General containing the budget for the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002 (A/56/487) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/56/621).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.16

4. At the 36th meeting, on 13 December, the representative of Uruguay, Rapporteur of the Committee and coordinator of the informal consultations on the item, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone" (A/C.5/56/L.16).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/56/L.16 without a vote (see para. 6).

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III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999, by which the Council established the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1370 (2001) of 18 September 2001,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and subsequent resolutions on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, the latest of which was resolution 55/251 B of 14 June 2001,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone as at 15 November 2001, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 317.1 million United States dollars, representing, regrettably, some 30 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes that some 11 per cent of Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States concerned, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full and on time and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full and on time;

[1] A/56/487.
[2] A/56/621.

3. *Expresses concern* about the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

11. *Decides* to appropriate the amount of 699,230,584 dollars gross (693,126,185 dollars net) for the maintenance of the Mission for the 12-month period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, inclusive of the amount of 7,230,584 dollars gross (6,685,385 dollars net) for the support account for peacekeeping operations, in addition to the amount of 16,634,763 dollars gross (14,598,640 dollars net) already appropriated for the support account for peacekeeping operations, and the amount of 1,737,712 dollars gross (1,560,456 dollars net) already appropriated for the United Nations Logistics Base by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/251 B, inclusive of the amount of 275 million dollars gross (273,375,000 dollars net) authorized by the Assembly in resolution 55/251 B;

12. *Decides also*, taking into account the amount of 275 million dollars gross (273,375,000 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001 and the amount of 18,372,475 dollars gross (16,159,096 dollars net) already apportioned for the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 55/251 B, to apportion among Member States the amount of 251,230,584 dollars gross (248,140,985 dollars net) for the period from 1 July 2001 to 31 March 2002, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the Assembly in resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2001 and 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000, the scale of assessments for the year 2001 to be applied against a portion thereof, that is,

71 million dollars gross (69,845,400 dollars net) for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the scale of assessments for the year 2002 to be applied against the balance, that is, 180,230,584 dollars gross (178,295,585 dollars net) for the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002;

13. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 12 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 3,089,599 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2001 to 31 March 2002, 1,154,600 dollars being the amount pertaining to the period from 1 July to 31 December 2001, and the balance, that is, 1,934,999 dollars pertaining to the period from 1 January to 31 March 2002;

14. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 132 million dollars gross (130,938,600 dollars net) for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2002, at a monthly rate of 44 million dollars gross (43,646,200 dollars net) in accordance with the scheme set out in the present resolution and taking into account the scale of assessments for the year 2002, as set out in its resolution 55/5 B, subject to the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission beyond 31 March 2002;

15. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 14 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated staff assessment income of 1,061,400 dollars approved for the Mission for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2002;

16. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

17. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

18. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

19. *Decides* to keep under review during its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".